channels with which longer-term connections of the channels of a channel group are realized;

the second module type being for remote configuration of channels to be connected through and add-drop channels of one of the channel groups with which short-term connections of the channels of the one channel group are realized;

the third module type being for closed connecting-through of a channel group; and

a combination filter to which reconfigured channel groups are fed and which forms an outgoing WDM signal.

17. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 16 wherein the first module type comprises substantially a WDM demultiplexer, a manually configurable switching unit, and a WDM multiplexer.

18. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 16 wherein the second module type comprises a WDM demultiplexer, a remote-configurable switching unit, and a WDM mult8iplexer.

19. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 16 wherein the second module type comprises an add-drop-continue device with a series connection of at least one circulator, a tunable filter, and a coupling-in device.

20. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 19 wherein the transmission loss of the tunable filter is adjustable.

21. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 20 wherein the transmission loss of the tunable filter is thermally adjustable.

22. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 16 wherein the third module type comprises an optical connecting cable.

23. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 16 wherein there is provided a fourth module type which makes possible a remote configuration of drop-continue channels.

24. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 23 wherein the fourth module type has a coupling device for coupling out at least part of the incoming WDM signal and a circulator and also at least one tunable filter.

25. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 23 wherein the fourth module type has a coupling device for coupling out at least part of the incoming WDM signal, and at least one filter arrangement acting as a WDM demultiplexer for separating the coupled-out WDM signal into a plurality of channels of different wavelength.

26. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 19 wherein narrow-band series-connected Bragg channel filters are provided which are tuned with regard to resonant wavelength, a stop band of which is so narrow that a filter tuned to a wavelength lying between the

channels significantly does not influence a function of adjacent channels.

27. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 26 wherein the series connection of the tunable filters is terminated by an optical absorber into which non-reflected WDM signals are directed.

28. The add-drop multiplexing device of claim 24 wherein for coupling-out of a plurality of channels, a WDM demultiplexer is additionally provided designated at least for a number of the channels which corresponds to a number of the tunable filters.

29. The add-drop multiplexing device as claimed in claim 16 wherein the channels of at least one of the channel groups are adjacent in terms of frequency.

30. A wavelength division multiplex transmission system, comprising:

a plurality of add-drop multiplexing devices connected to one another via optical waveguides; and

each of the add-drop multiplexing devices comprising

a group filter which divides an incoming WDM signal into a plurality of channel groups with channels of different wavelengths,

a plurality of exchangeable modules each of which connects to a respective channel group for connecting through and branching off channels,

the exchangeable modules comprising at least one of first, second, and third module types,

the first module type being for manual reconfiguration of connected-through and add-drop channels with which longer-term connections of the channels of a channel group are realized,

the second module type being for remote configuration of channels to be connected through and add-drop channels of one of the channel groups with which short-term connections of the channels of the one channel group are realized,

the third module type being for closed connecting-through of a channel group, and

a combination filter to which reconfigured channel groups are fed and which forms an outgoing WDM signal.

31. A configurable add-drop multiplexing device for an optical wavelength division multiplex transmission system, comprising:

a group unit which divides an incoming WDM signal into a plurality of channel groups;

a plurality of exchangeable modules each of which connect to a respective channel group for connecting through and branching off channels;

the exchangeable modules comprising at least one of first, second, and third module types;

the first module type being for manual reconfiguration of connected-through and add-drop